

Today, 25,000 girls - some as young as ten years old - will be robbed of their future when they are forced to marry much older men. It isn't marriage when a ten year old girl is given to a forty year old man. That is sexual abuse.

The practice of child marriage is wrong and it must end. The United States must take a stand against child marriage.

Democrats and Republicans must come together and pass the *International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act* as soon as possible. Every Senator agreed to this bill when it passed last week. It passed unanimously.

There is a lot of talk in Congress about the need to protect children from abuse. It is time for action. It's time for a vote.

I yield back.